Mitigating inventory uncertainty through whole systems thinking

The total value of inventories in developed nations is around 15% of their GDP! Tiny savings in such investment have enormous economic implications. But with global disruptions, including more recently Brexit, the covid-19 pandemic, war in Europe and the subsequent economic crisis, the ability to control and manage such inventories requires different ways of thinking to make the whole supply chain more resilient to disruptions.

The International Society for Inventories Research (ISIR) is a community of scientists that are interested in all aspects of inventory management; from inventory modelling to pricing, and from financial research to relevant (macro-)economic issues, and indeed one of the founding people of the Society and first President was Kenneth Arrow.

Organized and hosted by Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University, on behalf of the ISIR, the 16th ISIR PhD Summer School will be held in the capital city of Cardiff, Wales, UK, from 24th July to 28th July 2023. ISIR’s bi-annual Summer School aims to bring together PhD students, and potentially one of their supervisors plus other senior faculty members, to give an opportunity to the former group to present their work in a developmental way, receive extensive constructive feedback, expand their network, attend several keynotes from renowned researchers in the field and also attend some methodology workshops to expand their methodological repertoire.

We are very pleased to have the following keynote speakers and workshop facilitators:

- Prof. Robert Boute, Vlerick Business School, and KU Leuven, Belgium
- Prof. John Boylan, Management School, Lancaster University, UK
- Prof. Steve Disney, University of Exeter Business School, UK
- Prof. Rogelio Oliva, Mays Business School, Texas A&M University, USA
- Prof. Ruud Teunter, Department of Operations, University of Groningen, Netherlands
- Prof. Li Zhou, School of Business, Operations and Strategy, University of Greenwich, UK

Key research streams in the Summer School include (but are not limited to):

- Supply Chain / Inventory Dynamics and Systems Thinking
- Forecasting for Inventory Management
- Interface between Inventory Management and Transport & Logistics
- Supply Chain Resilience and Risk Management
- Supply Chain Design and inventory management
- Judgemental aspects of Inventory Management
- Technological and Business Interfaces to Inventory Management
- Inventory Management for Humanitarian Operations
- Inventory Management for Service Logistics
- Inventory management for perishable goods
- Inventory management for sustainable supply chains
- Machine Learning for Inventory Management
- Offshoring, Nearshoring and Dual Sourcing

Draft outline programme
Applying to attend the ISIR 2023 Summer School

Please note that there will be a competitive process of accepting PhD student presentations based on peer review conducted by a scientific committee. Applicants should send a 500-word extended abstract highlighting the Purpose, Method, Findings (even if provisional), Originality and Limitations of their research.

Key dates are:

- Monday 16th January 2023: Opening date for structured abstracts submission
- Monday 24th April 2023: Closing date for structured abstracts submission
- Tuesday 9th May 2023: Notification of acceptance
- Monday 26th June 2023: Deadline for final submission of complete working papers

Submissions to be made via Easy Chair – https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=isir2023

Any queries can be sent to ISIR2023@cardiff.ac.uk

Accommodation – we will make available student accommodation, but Cardiff has a range of different levels and prices of hotels, hostels and bed & breakfasts that may be booked via comparison web sites to get the best deals. Currently prices quoted start from around £50/night.

Both Ph.D. students and senior researchers are kindly asked to register before Monday, 19th June 2023. Registration details will be advertised nearer to the time. The registration fee of £155 will cover participation, lunches and two dinners, and the industry visits.

We can guarantee an exciting week with fascinating presentations from talented researchers, and an exciting social programme and industry visits. The venues will be a mixture of the traditional (the Glamorgan Building, that opened in 1912 as the headquarters of the County Council of Glamorgan, Glamorgan being the former name for the region in which the city of Cardiff resides) and the new (Cardiff Business School’s Postgraduate Teaching Centre) and the new multidisciplinary Social Science Research Park).

We look forward to welcoming you to Cardiff!

Aris Syntetos and Mohamed M. Naim
Chairs of 2023 ISIR Summer School, and on behalf of the organising committee:
Thanos Goltsos (Industry Coordinator), Irina Harris (Review Coordinator), Qinyun Li (IT Coordinator),
Paul Wang (Submissions Coordinator), Beverly Francis (Conference Officer)